

### A CALL TO HUMILITY

*"They left that place and passed through Galilee. Jesus did not want anyone to know where they were, because he was teaching his disciples. He said to them, 'The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men. They will kill him, and after three days he will rise.' But they did not understand what he meant and were afraid to ask him about it."*

Mark 9:30-32 (NIV)

#### ❖ Practicing Humility through SERVING OTHERS.

*"They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest. Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all.' He took a little child and had him stand among them. Taking him in his arms, he said to them, 'Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me.'"*

Mark 9:33-37 (NIV)

1. The way to be FIRST is to be LAST.
2. True humility is putting OTHERS above YOURSELF.
3. Humility recognizes that all people have WORTH and VALUE.

*"The world says you are great if others are serving you. Jesus says you are great if you are serving others."*

#### ❖ Practicing Humility by seeing the VALUE in OTHERS.

*"Teacher," said John, 'we saw a man driving out demons in your name and we told him to stop, because he was not one of us.' 'Do not stop him,' Jesus said. 'No one who does a miracle in my name can in the next moment say anything bad about me, for whoever is not against us is for us. I tell you the truth, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to Christ will certainly not lose his reward.'"*

Mark 9:38-41 (NIV)

1. We need to be careful to not CRITICIZE what God is BLESSING.
2. We need to be equally careful to do what God has CALLED us to DO.
3. We are promised a reward for FAITHFUL service, not for EVALUATING others.

*"We are not called to be 'Fruit Inspectors', but to be 'Fruit Producers' for the Kingdom"*

❖ Practicing Humility by RECOGNIZING the VULNERABLE.

*“And if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to be thrown into the sea with a large millstone tied around his neck. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell...Everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with each other.”*

Mark 9:42-50 (NIV)

1. The vulnerable are all of the LITTLE ONES in our lives.
2. The vulnerable are often DISREGARDED and PUSHED ASIDE.
3. The vulnerable are OUR RESPONSIBILITY when we say yes to Jesus.

“Our eyes need to be open to the opportunities that God gives us to help the helpless.”

❖ Practicing Humility by accepting CHILDLIKE QUALITIES.

*“People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, ‘Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.’ And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.”*

Mark 10:13-16 (NIV)

1. As Children of God we are to be TRUSTING of our Lord.
2. As Children of God we are to be DEPENDENT on our Lord.
3. As Children of God we are to be FAITHFUL to our Lord.

“We enter the Kingdom of God by faith. We grow useful in the Kingdom of God by faith.”